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Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A switching device is disclosed which includes a frame, a first connector and a second connector, the first connector and the second connector extending from inside the frame outside the frame. The first and the second connector are electrically connected to one another, and one or more gas flow openings are provided in the frame and arranged for a gas flow produced by a switching event. In its portion remaining inside the frame, the first connector includes a hole provided for said gas flow.